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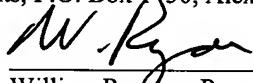
Docket No 113062 CON-1 Examiner: Thuy Pardo

Title METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR IMPROVING END TO END
 PERFORMANCE OF A DATA NETWORK

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PRELIMINARY
AMENDMENT

SIR:

This is a preliminary amendment in the present continuation application, which present application is a continuation of Application No. 09/977,400, filed October 16, 2001 (pending), which is a continuation of Application No. 09/105,018, filed June 26, 1998 and issued on December 11, 2001 as U.S. Patent No. 6,330,561.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 3
of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.